REMARKS

Claims 1 - 16 are pending in the present application, of which claims 10 - 16 have been

withdrawn from consideration. It is respectfully submitted that this Request for Reconsideration

is fully responsive to the Office Action dated April 5, 2004.

As To The Merits:

As to the merits of this case, the Examiner sets forth the following rejection:

claims 1 - 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Ishioka et al.

(U.S. Patent No. 6,703,849).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 calls for a conductive member adapted to be disposed on the side of one of the

surfaces of said circuit board and to be supplied with an inspection signal; means for supplying

the inspection signal to said conductive member; a plurality of cells adapted to be disposed on

the side of the other surface of said circuit board with opposing to said conductive member; and

means for acquiring each signal appearing at said cells in response to said inspection signal

applied to said conductive member. Independent claim 9 is drawn to a similar embodiment.

It is respectfully submitted that the applied reference of Ishioka et al. fail to disclose or

fairly suggest the features of the present claimed invention concerning a conductive member

adapted to be disposed on the side of one of the surfaces of said circuit board and to be supplied

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with an inspection signal; means for supplying the inspection signal to said conductive member;

a plurality of cells adapted to be disposed on the side of the other surface of said circuit board

with opposing to said conductive member.

That is, while the present invention and Ishioka et al. both relate to an inspection

apparatus for inspecting a circuit wiring of a circuit board, however, as shown in the attached

drawing (Exhibit A), Ishioka et al. discloses a structure in which the inspection unit 1 is disposed

on one side of the circuit board 100. This means that the inspection unit 1 of Ishioka et al.

includes a sensor unit and conductive member. However, Ishioka et al. fails to disclose that a

conductive member is adapted to be disposed on the side of one of the surfaces of the circuit

board and to be supplied with an inspection signal, and a plurality of cells are adapted to be

disposed on the side of the other surface of the circuit board with opposing to said conductive

member, as called for in the present claimed invention and as shown in the example of an

embodiment of the present invention in the attached drawing.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants

submit that that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicant

requests such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the

Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to

expedite the disposition of this case.

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Response under 37 C.F.R. §1.111 Attorney Docket No. **020238** Serial No. **10/069,523**

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

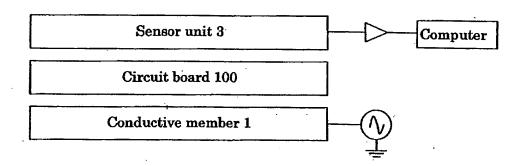
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Attachment: Exhibit A

EXHIBIT A

An Example of the Present Invention



US6,703,849

